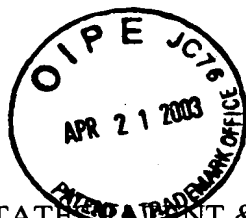


DOCKET NO.: 215240US0PCT



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF :

YASUJI HIRAMATSU, ET AL. :

EXAMINER: KOPPIKAR, V. D.

SERIAL NO: 09/926,362 :

FILED: JANUARY 16, 2002 :

GROUP ART UNIT: 1775

FOR: ALUMINUM NITRIDE SINTERED  
BODY, CERAMIC SUBSTRATE,  
CERAMIC HEATER AND  
ELECTROSTATIC CHUCK

*Handwritten signature and date 4/29/03*

AMENDMENT AND REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

**GROUP 1700**

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

APR 24 2003

SIR:

**RECEIVED**

Responsive to the Office Action dated October 21, 2002, Applicants respectfully  
request reconsideration in light of the following amendment and remarks.

IN THE CLAIMS

05/02/2003 TROSSI 00000004 150030 09926362  
01 FC:1202 18.00 CH Please cancel Claims 1-16.

Please add the following claims.

--17. (New) A ceramic heater comprising a sintered ceramic substrate having a  
heating element inside thereof or on the surface thereof,  
wherein said sintered ceramic substrate has been sintered such that a sectional view of  
fracture thereof exhibits intragranular fracture.

04/22/2003 SDEN3051 00000021 09926362  
01 FC:1202 466.00 OP

18. (New) The ceramic heater according to Claim 17,

*Handwritten signature*